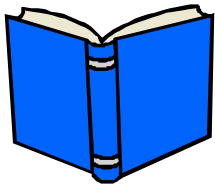


Metropolitan Mirror Site



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency · Region III Superfund Fact Sheet · June 1998

EPA Issues the Proposed Remedial Action Plan



On June 16, 1998, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a Proposed Remedial Action Plan (Proposed Plan) for the Metropolitan Mirror Superfund Site. The Proposed Plan recommends no further action at this time because EPA has determined that the removal action, which took place at the site in the spring and summer of 1997, sufficiently addressed hazardous site conditions. After the public has had an opportunity to review and comment on the Proposed Plan, EPA will make a final decision and issue a formal Record of Decision (ROD) for the site. (Please see sidebar for information on the public meeting and the public comment period.) ■

Site Documents Available at Information Repository and on The Internet



EPA has established an Information Repository near the Metropolitan Mirror Site to ensure that site information, such as the Proposed Plan, is available to the public. The Information Repository houses the Administrative Record File, EPA's official collection of information that supports decisions made for the site. The Information Repository is located at:

West Mahanoy Township Building
190 Pennsylvania Ave.
Shenandoah, PA 17976
(717) 462-2958

Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday - Friday
Contact: Michael Michalik

You may also review the file at the EPA Administrative Records Room at 841 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107. Please call (215) 566-3157 for an appointment. (Please see "On the Move..." for relocation information.)



Additional information on the Metropolitan Mirror Superfund Site may be accessed via the Internet at "www.epa.gov/region03." EPA's website contains past fact sheets on the site, background on the Superfund Program and information about general environmental issues. ■

EPA Welcomes Your Input

Public Meeting



Community members have the opportunity to ask questions and express their concerns about the Proposed Plan at a public meeting and during a public comment period.

The public meeting regarding the Metropolitan Mirror Proposed Plan will be:

Time: 7 p.m.

**Date: Tuesday
June 30, 1998**

**Place: Shenandoah Heights Police Station
190 Pennsylvania Ave.
Shenandoah, PA 17976**

EPA opened the public comment period when the Proposed Plan was released on June 16, 1998. EPA relies on public input to ensure that the Proposed Plan for a Superfund site considers and addresses the needs and concerns of the community. To ensure that community members' opinions regarding the Metropolitan Mirror Site are heard, EPA invites local residents to ask questions or express their concerns during the ongoing public comment period or at the upcoming public meeting. Those who prefer to send written comments to EPA may do so by writing to one of the representatives listed on the back page before the public comment period ends on July 15, 1998.

All comments and questions about the Proposed Plan that EPA receives during the comment period and the public meeting will be addressed in a Responsiveness Summary. The Responsiveness Summary will become part of the ROD. ■

On the Move...



EPA is moving its Philadelphia office. After July 16, the new address will be:

U.S. EPA, Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

All phone extensions will remain the same, but the 566 exchange will become 814. Toll-free 800 numbers will remain the same. ■

Metropolitan Mirror Site History

The Metropolitan Mirror Site is an industrial park in the southern part of West Mahanoy Township, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania.

Between 1959 and 1982, Metropolitan Mirror and Glass Co. used the site to operate a mirror manufacturing facility. Since 1987, the property has been occupied by the St. Jude Polymer Co. This company currently operates a plastic-bottle recycling center that does not involve onsite disposal of wastes.



Contaminants were first discovered in the site's groundwater in 1986. As a result, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PaDEP) investigated the site to determine the source of the contamination. PaDEP identified the former Metropolitan Mirror and Glass facility and its four onsite settling lagoons previously used for waste disposal as potential sources of contamination.

In 1989, EPA inspected the Metropolitan Mirror Site. Contaminants detected in the lagoon areas and the soils of a drum storage area included aluminum, lead and **volatile organic compounds (VOCs)**.

After inspecting and evaluating the site, EPA suggested that it be added to the **National Priorities List (NPL)**. On October 14, 1992, the Metropolitan Mirror Site was officially added to the NPL and thereby became eligible for cleanup funds under the Federal Superfund Program.

Between 1995 and 1998, an EPA contractor conducted a remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS). During the RI, the contractor identified the types and amounts of contamination at the site and the possible risks that the contamination could pose to

Glossary

National Priorities List (NPL): EPA's list of the nation's most serious uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites identified for detailed investigation and possible long-term cleanup using Superfund money if no viable responsible parties can be identified.

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs): Man-made, carbon-based chemicals that evaporate when they come into contact with air. These chemicals are commonly used as solvents, degreasers and dry cleaning chemicals.

human health and the environment. During the FS, the contractor used the information collected during the RI to identify possible methods to clean up the contamination.

According to the RI, contamination in soil north of the manufacturing building and sludge and dredged materials in the lagoons posed a significant threat to human health and the environment. Between May and August 1997, an emergency removal action was conducted. The contaminated soil, sludge and dredged materials were removed and properly disposed offsite. After the excavation, sampling was performed at the previously contaminated areas. The sampling results indicated that these areas no longer posed a risk to human health or the environment.

Based on the RI/FS, EPA determined that the emergency removal action had sufficiently removed contamination from the site. Therefore, no further remedial action is necessary to protect human health and the environment. ■

For More Information...

For more information about the Metropolitan Mirror Superfund Site, please contact one of the EPA representatives listed below:



Eugene Dennis (3HS21)
Remedial Project Manager
(215) 566-3202
dennis.eugene@epamail.epa.gov

Carrie Deitzel (3HS43)
Community Involvement Coordinator
(215) 566-5525 or 1-800-553-2509
deitzel.carrie@epamail.epa.gov

U.S. EPA, Region III
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, PA 19107*

**Please see front page for relocation information.*



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